EAIC Public Event

'How does Artificial Intelligence impact the design, evaluation and management of R&I projects?'

Rationale

The European Association of Innovation Consultants (EAIC) organises an event entitled "How does AI impact R&I project design, proposal evaluation and project management?". The event will raise awareness and inform a discussion about the short and medium-term use of artificial intelligence-based tools in support of EU funded research and innovation projects.

Today, some AI-based tools, such as translation tools, are already being used in the context of EU funded projects. However, the growing use of such tools for content creation and data analysis prompts a reflection on their incorporation throughout the project value chain - from identifying funding opportunities, writing and evaluating proposals to managing and implementing projects. There is a need to assess the opportunities and challenges that these tools are bringing and will continue bringing to the R&I ecosystem.

The event will address the impacts that AI based tools have on innovation consulting services, on their business models, on required new skills and competences for the workforce. It will also aim to explore the boundary conditions – and especially ethical concerns.

The EAIC objective is to initiate, inform, and feed the ongoing discussions on these matters with the R&I stakeholders. The proposed focus is on the following three main segments:

- project design,
- proposal evaluation, and
- project management.

Programme (final)

14.30: Beginning of the event

14.30 – 14.45: Welcome, **Maud Evrard** (Secretary General, EAIC)

14.45 – 15.15: Keynote address:

- Exploring the societal, ethical, and regulatory implications of AI in the context of European R&I projects
  Prof. Paul Lukowicz (Scientific Director, German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence & Coordinator of the Horizon 2020 HumaneAI)

15.15 – 16.25: Uses, opportunities and limitations

- **Making innovation an effective science**
  - o The Innovation Loop's approach to support R&I projects design, evaluation and management - **Aziz Zenasni & Damien Périssé** (The Innovation Loop)

- **Project design**
  - o AI based tools in support of the pre-award phase - **Dr. Maéva Vignes** (Data Scientist Consultant, Research Support & Policy Team, University of Southern Denmark SDU)
  - o Towards the augmented consultant: AI-powered tools to automate information extraction – **Emile Baffie** (Chef de projet, ERDYN - France, Member of EAIC)

- **Project management** – Use of AI based tools to support administrative tasks in projects, exploitation and dissemination of results:
  - o Reflections from the European Association of Research Managers and Administrators / RM Roadmap project - **Nik Claesen** (Managing Director, EARMA)

16.25 – 16.55: Discussion, moderated by **Corentin Lefèvre** (Neovia, France)

16.55 – 17.00: Conclusion

17.00 – 18.50: Networking reception

18.50: End of the event